

Soderstrom in New Term As Top County Republican

Charles Soderstrom of the 66th Assembly District, San Pedro, was re-elected by unanimous acclamation last week as chairman of the Republican Central Committee of Los Angeles County for 1967-1968. The organizational meeting was held in the Hearing Room of the Board of Supervisors.

On accepting the chairmanship, Soderstrom thanked the members of the County Committee for the hard work which had brought victory in 1966.

"We look forward," he stated, "to building on our victory toward even greater success in the Republican Party in 1968, both in our State and in Washington."

SODERSTROM, a San Pedro businessman, has been active in civic and political affairs for many years.

Prior to serving as Republican County Committee chairman in 1966, he was finance chairman for United Republican Finance in the 17th

Congressional District; treasurer of Los Angeles County Republican Committee, chairman of the Los Angeles County Republican Almanac Committee; chairman of the Budget Committee of Los Angeles County Central Committee, and a member of the Executive Committee of the State Central Committee of California representing the 17th Congressional District. He is married and has three children.

Ralph G. Skillen, 47th Assembly District, assistant treasurer.



CHARLES SODERSTROM Re-elected By Republicans

SERVING as officers of the Republican Central Committee of Los Angeles County with Soderstrom for the coming two year term will be Philip Z. Brooks of the 52nd Assembly District, secretary; L. Thaxton Hanson, 64th Assembly District, treasurer; Mrs. Lillie Mae McFadden, 53rd Assembly District, assistant secretary; and Dr.

Assessor Seeks New Auditors

Accountants with auditing experience are being sought to fill 29 audit positions in the post-audit division of his office, County Assessor Philip E. Watson announced today.

Applicants must have a college degree, with 18 units of accounting, and two years auditing or accounting experience. Starting salary is \$735 a month with annual increases to \$914 at that level and opportunity for advancement to higher positions.

Examination information may be obtained by calling the Civil Service Commission. Exams are given daily.

Watson said the additional auditor-appraisers are necessary to staff the expanded post-audit section of his Department. A new state law requires auditing of all businesses with an assessed value of \$12,500 or more on a four-year cycle, he explained.

Economy Gains New Momentum

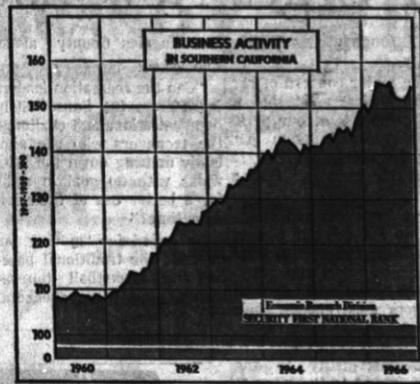
Southern California's economy gained momentum during the final months of 1966, according to Myron H. Eidsmoe, manager of Security First National Bank's Torrance office.

The December activity is estimated at 154.6 on the bank Economic Research Division's Index of Business Activity, Eidsmoe said. The preliminary index for November, 1966, is 152.7 and the final index for last October is 151.7.

The index stood at 149.5 in December, 1965, Eidsmoe explained.

THE BUSINESS index is

Probably nothing hurts our image in the Far East more than our peace missions to a dozen capitals a few months ago. They were widely interpreted through-out Asia as an indication of weakness. — Charles L. Gould, San Francisco publisher.



based on statistics representing 14 components of the total economy, Eidsmoe said. All components are adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and geared to the index according to their impact on the overall business climate. Base value of the index is 100,

which represents average business activity during 1957 through 1959. December's estimate of 154.6 indicates the economy is more than half again as strong as it was in the late 50s.

Department store sales demonstrated the greatest

strength — among index components during December as they did during November. Real estate activity showed little change. Construction and bank clearings both declined.

EMPLOYMENT in Southern California metropolitan areas reached a seasonal high in November, the latest month for which figures are available. Civilian jobholders during that month numbered about 4,446,000, for an increase of 184,000 workers over the number in November, 1965. The local employment gain of 4.3 per cent compares with a national gain of 3 per cent.

Southern California unemployment declined to 4.7 per cent in November. Last year at the same time it was 5.7 per cent.

HEALTH CARE Per capita expenditures for health care increased from \$104 in 1960 to \$142 in 1965.

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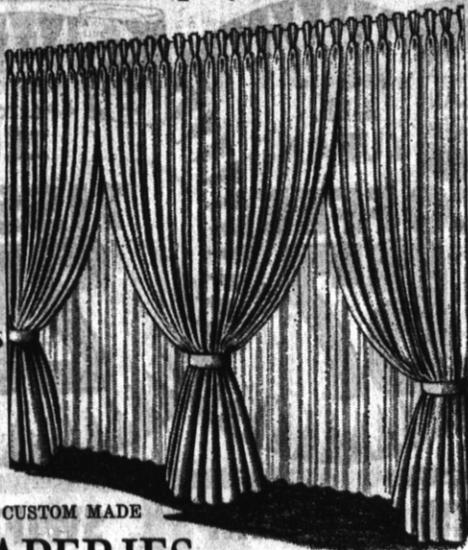
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